



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska
Deborah R. Gilg

1620 Dodge Street Suite 1400 Omaha NE 68102-1506 (402) 661-3700

April 5, 2010

United States Attorney Deborah Gilg, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office and the Omaha Police Department announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release: On April 5, 2010, Bradford Winnie was sentenced to 17 years and 5 months of imprisonment following his conviction for being in possession of stolen firearms and being a felon in possession of firearms and ammunition. Winnie was sentenced as an armed career offender. This designation under the federal law means that he has three prior felonies of crimes of violence.

Mr. Winnie was originally indicted along with five other defendants. Those defendants were Jason Hawthorne, Michael Davis, Kenny Dofner, Gregory Stanek and Chad Winters. Hawthorne, Dofner, Stanek and Winters pled guilty to the charges of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and cocaine and use of a weapon in connection with the conspiracy. Davis pled guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. All these individuals have been sentenced. Chad Winters was sentenced on March 19, 2010, to 20 years of imprisonment. Jason Hawthorne and Kenny Dofner were sentenced on March 29, 2010. Hawthorne received a sentence of 31 years and 8 months and Dofner was sentenced to 20 years and 8 months. Michael Davis was sentenced on March 31, 2010, to a term of 8 years and 5 months of imprisonment. Gregory Stanek was sentenced on April 1, 2010, to 31 years and 8 months of imprisonment. Hawthorne, Davis and Stanek were sentenced as career offenders. This designation under the federal law means that they had two prior felonies of crimes of violence.

Evidence in the case reveals that from January 27, 2009, and continuing through February 27, 2009, Jason Hawthorne and/or Michael Davis made several sales of methamphetamine and one sale of marijuana to an undercover agent. Those sales occurred on 01/29/2009, 02/02/2009, 02/11/2009, and 2/17/09. Hawthorne also sold the undercover agent a sawed off shotgun on 2/2/09. On 1/16/09, Hawthorne and Davis sold the undercover agent six rifles that had been stolen the day before from a Grand Island residence.

During the sale of methamphetamine that occurred on 01/29/09, Hawthorne and Davis inquired of the agent about performing a home invasion, i.e. robbing a person for their drugs. On 2/26/09, Hawthorne, Winters, Dofner, and Stanek were arrested after meeting up that evening

armed with a sawed off shotgun and another handgun to do the robbery. Davis, who did not participate in the robbery plan, was arrested later that evening at a halfway house in Co. Bluffs, Iowa.

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty):

Conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute more than 500 grams of methamphetamine and more than 5 kilograms of cocaine, which carries a penalty of not less than 10 years and not more than life and a fine up to \$4,000,000, and 5 years term of supervised release; use of a sawed off shotgun in connection with the drug conspiracy, which carries a penalty of a consecutive term of 10 years to life imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000, and a 3 year term of supervised release; felon in possession of firearms and possession of stolen firearms which carry a penalty of up to 10 years and a fine of up to \$250,000, and a 3 year term of supervised release; and the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine charges which carry penalties of 5 to 40 years and a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a 4 year term of supervised release.

Specific Location of Alleged Crime: Omaha, Nebraska

Location of Arrest: Omaha, Nebraska

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: Over 500 grams of methamphetamine and over 5 kilograms of cocaine.

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: January 27, 2009, and continuing through February 27, 2009

Federal Arrest Date: February 26, 2009, for all defendants except Winnie, who was arrested on March 25, 2009

Date Complaint Issued: 2/27/09

Indictment Returned Date: December 16, 2009

Initial Appearance Date: December 21, 2009

Plea or Trial and Date(s): Chad Winters pled guilty on 12/28/09; Jason Hawthorne pled guilty on 1/7/10; Gregory Stanek and Michael Davis pled guilty on 1/8/10; Dofner pled guilty on 1/11/10; and Winnie pled guilty on 1/19/10.

Sentencing Date: set forth above

Next Court Hearing Type and Date: N/A

Assigned Magistrate Judge: Thomas D. Thalken

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody: all were held without bond

In Continuous Custody Since: All defendants except for Winnie have been detained since 2/27/09. Winnie had been in custody since 3/25/09.

Assigned District Court Judge: The Honorable Judge Laurie Smith Camp

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: MRM